

**Daniel P. Vrakas**  
County Executive



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** Wednesday, August 1, 2007  
**Contact:** Allison Bussler – Chief of Staff, (262) 548-7902

**Vrakas Vetoes Library Funding Increase**

WAUKESHA – County Executive Dan Vrakas vetoed Library Funding Ordinance 162-O-032 today, which called for a library tax increase of \$406,270 or over 15% of the current library tax.

Vrakas stated, “While I am supportive of the outstanding library services offered in Waukesha County, I cannot approve this tax increase. Awarding excessive library funding would jeopardize other critical county services.”

The county’s complicated Federated Library System funding distribution formula currently reimburses library communities as a group for 116% of the operational costs incurred by non-library community usage.

Some library advocates contend that non-library communities do not pay their fair share of capital expenses, but the 16%, or more than \$360,000, over the 100% reimbursement enables individual libraries to direct those funds in a manner that would help cover capital costs.

Additionally, budgets put forth by the Governor and the State Assembly do not exempt libraries from tax freeze legislation.

Under the Federated Library System as defined by state statute, residents are allowed to utilize library services at any facility in the County.

If you agree with County Executive Dan Vrakas on the Library Funding Ordinance, please call your County Board Supervisor and ask them to sustain the veto. Contact information can be found on-line at [www.waukeshacounty.gov](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov) or by calling the Board Office at (262) 548-7002.

###